

**A PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY
OF THE PROPOSED LOCATION FOR THE
REALISTIC GROUND ANTENNA RANGE
(TASK ORDER 1815),
CRANE NSWC, MARTIN COUNTY, INDIANA**

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ABSTRACT

At the request of the Department of the Navy, Crane Division Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) (NAVSEA), the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University (GBL) conducted a Phase I, archaeological reconnaissance survey of the proposed location for the Realistic Ground Antenna Range (TASK ORDER 1815) on the grounds of the Crane NSWC, Martin County, Indiana. The purpose of the survey was to 1) identify and document all of the cultural resources in the project area, 2) evaluate any sites found with regard to their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures (IRHSS), and 3) to make recommendations for the protection of significant sites.

The project area lies about 1km south of the northern border of the NSA Crane facility within the uplands overlooking the Lake Greenwood reservoir. The survey parcel is approximately 6 acres in size and generally square in shape. During the early part of the 20th century and last half of the 19th century, the area was cleared of forest and farmed. The project area is currently forested. Due to its location on a ridge top, the presence of buried archaeological deposits is highly unlikely. Soils consisted of Zanesville Series Silt Loam. The Zanesville Series soil is relatively thin (ca. 100-120cm thick solum) and predominantly fine-grained, which facilitated the identification of any cultural material. The soil type was confirmed through samples taken with an Oakfield sampler.

In order to test the survey area, a systematic sampling strategy was employed. A total of 204 Shovel Test Units (STU) were excavated within the survey parcel. This included 196 STU excavated within a 10m grid and an additional 8 STU that represented 5m radials that were placed around two positive STU. The two positive STU included one possible artifact each. A wire nail head was found in one STU and a possible piece of Fire-Cracked Rock (FCR) was found in the other. Further inspection showed the FCR to be a natural clast and probably not cultural. No artifacts were recovered in the radial STU.

No significant cultural artifacts or features were identified during the survey, indicating that the proposed project at NSA-Crane will have no adverse impact on cultural resources. Only a single artifact was recovered within the survey area. This artifact, a wire nail head, is probably 20th century in age. Based on the area's previous use as an agricultural field in the early-to-middle 20th century, this artifact fragment probably represents an isolated discarded nail and not part of a significant archaeological site. **Given the lack of significant archaeological material within the survey area, no further investigation is recommended.**